

MINUTES OF THE FORTY-NINTH MEETING OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

13 May 1955

Present

Members: Lawrence Egbert, State (for Mr. Lacey)
Richard Bauer, Army
LTJG Richard W. Hanson, Navy

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Consultants:

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1. The 49th meeting convened at 1400 hours, and the minutes of the 48th meeting were approved with the following amendment:

a. Paragraph 1b, second line, after the words "State does," delete the word "not."

2. Near East, South Asia, and Africa

The Chairman stated that FDD proposes to eliminate the report on India/Pakistan in view of the fact that the large volume of reporting from the area and the 900 English-language newspapers published there afford complete coverage. He requested comments with this in mind.

State: Mr. Egbert stated that in his review of State units the branches had just conferred with FDD on Africa. He added that FDD reports were important for State. Emphasis on the Reunion and Madagascar, French Cameroons and French Equatorial Africa would be desirable. FDD's reports are useful and the format is satisfactory, but the emphasis seems to be on economic material; State would like to have more political information. If FDD must cut in the Greece, Turkey, Iran area, the elimination of Turkish information would be the least harmful to State. As to the discontinuance of India/Pakistan reports, Mr. Egbert stated that he would like to refer to the analysts, but believed it might be agreeable.

The Chairman asked whether it would meet the needs of State to discontinue reporting on Greece, Turkey and Iran, but to handle State's needs on specific request. Mr. Egbert believed this would be so.

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Army: Mr. Bauer stated that Army's analysts were pleased with FDD's product. Interest in Greece, Turkey, and Iran is limited and there is no comment on this report. Material on North Africa is quite useful. The Arab States [redacted] reports are extremely useful, especially the coverage on Jordan [redacted]. Recent liaison with FDD has ironed out the details of Army's needs in the Arab States and [redacted] report. Army would like to add a request for biographic data on all officers. Mr. Bauer delivered a check list on this coverage which is attached to the record. He stated that Army would like coverage of the Oman territorial GWADAR included in Arab States Report. As to duplication with FBIS and Embassy Press Summaries, Army finds none on the part of FDD, even with the attache' reports. Army finds the Embassy Press Summaries of no value. The Turkish Embassy press summary is not even useful in Turkey. Arab States information is badly needed and Army would like to see some reallocation of FDD's positions in order to provide more thorough coverage of the area. The information on Afghanistan is very useful. It is unique. Army has no objection to discontinuance of the India/Pakistan nor the Greece, Turkey, Iran reports.

Air Force: Mr. Bauer, representing Air Force, stated that Air is satisfied with the program and agreeable to majority decision.

Navy: Lt. Hanson generally concurred with Army's suggestions. Navy is agreeable to FDD's proposals.

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CIA: [redacted] presented some suggestions in detail to make the coverage more conclusive in the FDD program. These suggestions are attached to the record. He stated that there has been a suggestion the Greece, Turkey, Iran report be divided into two parts: 1) Internal Affairs, and 2) External Affairs.

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[redacted] stated that he was disappointed in the possibility of discontinuing the India/Pakistan report as OCI had looked to FDD for information on those countries' relations with each other and with the Sino-Soviet Bloc. He stated that there was considerable interest in present coverage and would like to see it extended, but he will examine the ad hoc suggestion.

The Chairman stated that FDD has found almost complete duplication in USIS and English-language publications.

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[redacted] requested that the "Science News Items" be published on only one side of the page.

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NSA: [redacted] stated that a survey of the FDD reports with other sources showed a high degree of duplication with FBIS, State, and others in Arab States [redacted] Greece, Turkey, Iran, India/Pakistan, and much of Africa. Some official or semi-official vernacular papers, not now being reported, might provide unique

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information. This is particularly true of Spanish Morocco, Egypt, and Sudan. A much higher amount of unique information is reported by FDD from Afghanistan.

The Chairman stated that it seemed that the needs could be met as follows: 25X6A

- a. A military report on Arab States [REDACTED]
- b. Process official gazettes for same countries, including an Afghanistan/Spanish Morocco report.
- c. Report on the four areas of Africa of interest to State.
- d. Discontinue India/Pakistan and Greece, Turkey, Iran reports and accept specific requests on those countries.

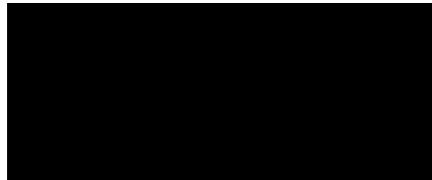
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[REDACTED] stated that he would like to think this over and check.

The Chairman asked the members to review and see if this sum-up is satisfactory.

3. The Chairman distributed to the members:
 - a. The FDD "Foreign Publications Exploitation Survey" and
 - b. The review and proposals on the Western Europe program.
4. Agenda for the next meeting will be:
 - a. Conclusion of Near East, South Asia and Africa Program.
 - b. Review of Western Europe Program.
5. The meeting adjourned at 1530 hours. The next meeting will be held on Friday, 27 May 1955, in Room 2125 M Building at 1400 hours.

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